

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 05744 251213Z

41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

DEAE-00 JUSE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 OES-05 OMB-01 EB-07

COME-00 (ISO) W

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R 251138Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 102

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 5744

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, TU, UN

SUBJ: PRESS COVERAGE OF TURKISH OPIUM POPPY CONTROL PROGRAM

REF ANKARA 5617

SUMMARY: WITH THE COMING OF THE POPPY HARVEST, ARTICLES ON THE POPPY ISSUE HAVE APPEARED MORE FREQUENTLY IN THE TURKISH PRESS. FOREIGN INTEREST IN THE POPPY HARVEST HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY NOTED BY TURKISH REPORTERS. END SUMMARY.

1. JULY 14, 15, 16, MODERATE LEFT CUMHURIYET CARRIED A THREE PART SERIES "OPIUM 1975". CUMHURIYET ARTICLES EMPHASIZE SERIOUS NATURE OF GOT CONTROL PROGRAM AND QUOTE "AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES" AS SAYING THAT THERE WILL BE NO OPIUM SMUGGLING THIS YEAR. A POPPY FARMER IS QUOTED AS BEING PLEASED WITH THE GOT POPPY PRICES. FOREIGN NEWSMEN ARE ACCUSED OF BEING PREJUDICED AGAINST TURKEY ON THE POPPY ISSUE AND OF WRITING FALSEHOODS EVEN AFTER VISITING THE POPPY REGION. THE UNITED STATES, SAYS CUMHURIYET, HAS TAKEN A WAIT AND SEE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE POPPY
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HARVEST AND THE GOT CONTROL PROGRAM.

2. ON JULY 16 POPULAR HURRIYET CARRIED A ONE PARAGRAPH ARTICULE ON PAGE ONE REPORTING THE SEIZURE OF 42.1 RPT 42.1 KILOGRAMS OF MORPHINE BASE IN USAK PROVINCE. JANDARMA FORCES ARE CREDITED WITH THE SEIZURE. THE ARTICLE ASSERTS THAT THIS MORPHINE BASE HAD BEEN DIVERTED FROM THE 1975 POPPY CROP.

3. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TURKISH DAILY NEWS JULY 19 HAS AN ACCOUNT OF THE VISIT TO THE POPPY REGION BY DR. STEN MARTENS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (REFTEL).

4. THE JULY 21 ISSUE OF CONSERVATIVE ADALET CONTAINED A TURKISH TRANSLATION OF STEVEN ROBERTS' JULY 16 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE, "US WATCHES AS TURKS HARVEST POPPIES".

5. ON JULY 21 CUMHURIYET REPORTED THAT EIGHT REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY PARLIAMENTARIANS HAD ISSUED A JOINT STATEMENT JULY 20 ACCUSING THE NATIONAL FRONT GOVERNMENT OF DELAYING CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED ALKALOID PLANT. THE PARLIAMENTARIANS FURTHER CHARGED THAT FOREIGN CAPITAL WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THIS VENTURE TO THE DETRIMENT OF TURKISH NATIONAL INTERESTS. THE EIGHT URGED GREATER PARTICIPATION BY THE GOT STATE PLANNING ORGANIZATION IN THE PROJECT, PARTICULARLY IN CHOOSING A SITE FOR THE ALKALOID PLANT.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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